

Dr Rob Lanfear
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Biography:

Rob is a senior lecturer at Macquarie University in Sydney, where he works on molecular evolution and phylogenetics with the aim of understanding the causes and consequences of molecular evolution. His work bridges spatial and temporal scales: from developing methods to identify and understand mutations that occur within a single individual over a few decades, to analysing the long-term evolution of globally-distributed clades of species over millions of years. He also investigates theoretical aspects of molecular evolution, and has developed new statistical methods and software to help infer phylogenies from huge DNA datasets. Rob has an undergraduate degree in Ecology (Durham), a Masters in Artificial Intelligence (Sussex), and PhD in Developmental Biology (Sussex). He switched to studying molecular evolution and phylogenetics full-time during his postdoctoral work at the Australian National University.